



## Mountain Home: The Wilderness Poetry of Ancient China

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**The earliest and most extensive literary engagement with wilderness in human history, *Mountain Home* is vital poetry that feels utterly contemporary.** China's tradition of "rivers-and-mountains" poetry stretches across millennia. This is a plain-spoken poetry of immediate day-to-day experience, and yet seems most akin to China's grand landscape paintings. Although its wisdom is ancient, rooted in Taoist and Zen thought, the work feels utterly contemporary, especially as rendered here in Hinton's rich and accessible translations. *Mountain Home* collects poems from 5th- through 13th-century China and includes the poets Li Po, Po Chu-i and Tu Fu. The "rivers-and-mountains" tradition covers a remarkable range of topics: comic domestic scenes, social protest, travel, sage recluses, and mountain landscapes shaped into forms of enlightenment. And within this range, the poems articulate the experience of living as an organic part of the natural world and its processes. In an age of global ecological disruption and mass extinction, this tradition grows more urgently important every day. *Mountain Home* offers poems that will charm and inform not just readers of poetry, but also the large community of readers who are interested in environmental awareness.

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